

APPENDIX D
Summary Of Outreach Comments

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT FIRST UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE
TABLE, 10/22/15

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our
handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 10

Summary:

Support

"Great"; "Yes...we need a couple"; "several 24/7"; "Yes...we need"; "need
when library isn't open"; "would help everyone"

Concerns

"don't make them hard to use"; "wheel chair accessible"

Location

"near the Ave"; "every other block"; "every 4-6 blocks"; "fantastic for the
times when the library isn't open and when people wait for food bank at Blessed
Sacrament"

10/23/15

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT **UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE**
TABLE, **10/28/15**

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 17

Summary:

Support

- "would benefit the homeless"
- "a good thing" (4)
- "great idea"
- "yes, as many as you can put up"
- "let the public go to the restroom"
- "Been homeless my whole life. Went to JAIL for peeing in an alley. Not right."
- "The Portland Loo system. I have personally used this in Portland and can attest to its proficiency. It is much safer in the case that someone overdoses, because you can see them on the ground."
- "As a non-car owner and a walker," I need public toilets.
- "Much needed"—local resident who often uses the Ave to browse and purchase, but if he doesn't purchase, it's "difficult to find a restroom."
- "Cheers!" "A women's health issue." "It shouldn't cost money to fulfill bodily functions."
- "a good idea for the businesses on the Ave"

Concerns

- "as long as it can be done safely, i.e. not full enclosure, plus maintained regularly"
- "Who would wash them? How often?"
- "What about the possibility of drug addicts/homeless people locking themselves inside the bathrooms?"
- "supervision needed because of drug abusers in the neighborhood"
- "Purified."

Location

- "I didn't feel comfortable putting up a green dot because I feel the youth/homeless adults need to determine."
- "where the parklet (on Univ Ave/43rd) is located"

Date 11/16/15

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT **FARMERS MARKET**
TABLE, **10/31/15**

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 35

Summary:

Support

- "Need to help out all people." (3)
- "Please put in public bathrooms."
- "The U needs a loo!"
- "Good idea." (7)
- "Needed 24 hours a day available to all."
- "Yes!"(7)
- "Bad to clean, but worse when there aren't any."
- "would be nice"
- "Need 2."
- "24 hours. Cleaned and inspected every day."
- "Need clean bathrooms that don't require a purchase."
- "Hidden and/or with attendant."
- "Need for humanitarian and public health reasons."
- "a human right" (2)
- "staff at least part time"
- "need for homeless people and tourists"

Concerns

"Will attract drug use and prostitution. Young drug users & dealer here hourly. The bathroom will have problems."

Location

- Farmers Market (2)
- At select campus sites, maybe in partnership with U Bookstore or Sound Transit
- At new light rail station

11/16/15

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT **BULLDOG NEWS**
TABLE, **11/11/15**

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 38

Summary:

Support

"to preserve dignity for many people"
people have the right to privacy and a clean public toilet (2)
need clean public restrooms
need a public toilet here rather than being obliged to purchase something to use a private toilet ("customer only") (5)
yes, like the idea, good/wonderful/great idea (13)
"Portland Loo all the way!"
homeless especially need public restroom (2)
"A late-night life-saver"
will keep the Ave clean
"available for students and the homeless"
"Public restrooms are past doo!!...We can doo it!"
"Better than using streets and alleys"
"We need this. The homeless use the ground next to my dumpsters."
"A good idea for dealing with the homeless population in the U District."
Would help with the current bad smell
"Safeway doesn't have a bathroom."

Concerns

must be "properly maintained"
"Clean"
"FREE, 24/7, ADA accessible, not just urinals!!"
"Simple squat & squirt with soap and water dispenser"
"No \$Million toilet"
"If the homeless problem gets resolved than yes" [sic]
"I think the bathroom should charge a small amount for maintenance and upkeep"
"Should be in the easiest accessible area... In Europe we sometimes put them in areas where 'unwanted' people can't access them, unfortunately."
"Should have 'enforced' rules."
All hours
"clean and safe"

Location

near 50th (high foot traffic)
on 45th for bus commuters

Date 11/21/15

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT **UNIVERSITY BOOK STORE**
TABLE, **11/14/15**

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 53

Summary:

Support

- "of course"/"great idea"/"Yes!"/"good idea" (25)
- "needed"/"useful"/"beneficial" (4)
- "I'm travelling and in need"
- "Open for 24 hours"
- "Preferably closed, brick structures maintained by public staff."
- "at least 3 toilets"—SPD, retired
- "would make for a cleaner, safer neighborhood" (3)
- "King Co. Public Health should provide 24/7/365 showers and restrooms for the public health of citizens and tourists."
- "several toilets"
- "With light rail, the city should provide an above ground facility."
- "good for the homeless," "benefits homeless youth"(3)
- "I lived in Portland and this works great, keeps businesses safer, keeps health risks" down.
- Serves the "public good"
- "If not stores should open restrooms to the public."
- "would help all socio-economic groups in our community"
- "Yes please! Public bathrooms with posted police? And store-run bathrooms with key"
- "a right"
- "nice"—"a visitor from out of town"

Concerns

- "Just make sure it is used for actual bathroom needs."
- Toilets "will make it more convenient for the homeless," which will discourage tourism.
- "If homeless people use them, what are the rest of us going to do?"
- "The problem is going to be preventing a crime hub."
- "People should pay a little to use them. That would keep them clean."
- "heavy duty stainless that can be hosed in morning"
- "Something cleaner than a Porta-Potty for sure"
- "No public restroom because it would create more problems than solve, with homeless population growing in UW"
- "Have dry toilets or use the rain water to flush."

Location

- Light rail station (2)
- "a good idea but I'm not sure where it should go"
- "Maybe around 45th or so...in the middle!"

David McCracken

Date 12/8/15

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT **SCHMITZ HALL**
TABLE, **11/18/15**

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 77

Summary:

Support

Useful, beneficial, advantageous, needed (24)
great idea, good idea, yes, amazing (30)
good for homeless people (6)
for visitors/tourists
helpful for students (5)
health, sanitary (4)
"like the brick one better"
would "help keep the streets cleaner"
"no pressure to buy something just to use the bathroom" (3)
basic need (2)
"Yes to gender neutral public restrooms!"
"Public toilets for EVERYONE"
"a human right" (2)
"at LEAST one" (3)
"Safeway for sure needs public restrooms!"
"Not opposed to an elegantly screened portable"
"really hard to find places that'll let you use their restroom for free"

Concerns

must be clean
"would be for the homeless and in this case ordinary passagers won't use it at all"
"better to be part of a building so it's a bit safer overall"
staffed for cleanliness
"it should be under strict observation"

Location

near a bus stop
in Red Square
"in a park with a physical building with restrooms"
"in the vicinity of the Post Office with an attendant to keep an eye on things"
Urban Rest Stop
By light rail
Somewhere central like 45th

David McCracken

Date 12/11/15

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT **FARMERS' MARKET**
TABLE, **11/21/15**

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 82

Summary:

Support

- "a basic human right" (2)
- "a great idea," "good idea," "yes" (28)
- use the Portland Loo prototype (4)
- "needed" (22)
- "we are behind the times"
- sanitary/public health and hygiene (5)
- "brings dignity to the community"
- "We looked for a restroom for 15 minutes today."
- "As a worker on the Ave for almost 20 years—WE NEED THIS!"
- "I wish UW would just help out and take responsibility."
- "homeless population is not getting the support it needs"
- "Visit Amsterdam and have convenient and safe places to pee!"
- "common sense"
- "a staffed facility"
- "as in Snohomish (they have nice restrooms for tourists and cyclists and anyone else who needs}"
- "humane"
- "Need more than one"

Concerns

- "maintaining it is important"
- "PLEASE make sure you allocate sufficient funds to clean, maintain, and replace"
- "Safety is my #1 concern"
- "cleanliness is a must"
- "without disturbing the businesses"
- "Local business should provide the services. I don't know if taxes should be spent. Is this a serious issue?"
- "Needs to be cheaper than Portland Loo"
- "Extend hours and services of existing Urban Rest Stop rather than build new facility?"

Location

- Ask users, "like kids on the Ave & ROOTS" (2)
- Light rail stations. OK to charge 50 cents or so.
- "cleanliness depends a lot on location"
- "near U Bookstore"
- South Lake Union, on Thomas St. or Minor area
- Light rail station (3)

David McCracken

Date 12/9/15

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT **SCHMITZ HALL**
TABLE, **11/24/15**

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 100

Summary:

Support

Yes, good idea, fantastic, great idea, awesome (57)
"The U-District IS a public restroom."
Needed, beneficial (16)
For shoppers and residents
For homeless population/homeless youth (7)
For drunk frat boys
For students - For visitors
Beneficial to storeowners and people
More than one (2)
The ones in Portland "serve a good function"
"Composting toilet!"
Sanitation (3)
A basic need (2)
A right (2)
"Need more! Visiting here."
"floor toilets—easy to keep clean"
"This is a common sense idea—safe, available public restrooms pose a definite improvement in public service."
"Good idea. Really hard to find a bathroom."
"need a place to go with dignity"
"a pee-rfect idea"
"public health"
"it would clean the streets and make them smell better"
UW could afford to make a couple of public restrooms."

Concerns

"I think it's a bad idea, bathrooms are already available throughout university and establishments."
Dirty - Safety
If you can solve the problems of the one in Pioneer Square.
"Should have, but not too much."
"needs maintenance"
"need consistent cleaning" (2)
"not too public in case of creeps"

Location

On the university campus (2)
Easy access—central location (2)
Light rail station

David McCracken

Date 12/11/15

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT **UNIVERSITY BOOK STORE**
TABLE, 11/3/15

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 63

Summary:

Support

"great idea"/"Yes!"/"good idea" (27)
"useful"/"beneficial" (5)
"It's a health issue. It's common sense."
a "medical need"/"sanitary conditions" (3)
"If people are tired of seeing human waste, give people who are homeless a place [to go to the toilet]."
It will keep the streets from being "so dirty and smelly"/"keep streets clean"
(6)

For everyone, not just homeless.
"Public Bathrooms are pillars of human civilization. Think Rome!"
"an affordable CIVIL RIGHT!"/"basic human right" (3)
"It seems silly not to have any."
"open 24 hours" (2)
A woman homeless for a year: "I had to change a tampon in the dark because nobody would let me use a bathroom. One dude I found watching me pee in the alley. Please put a bathroom in the U District."
"The lack of public restrooms might be the most neglected part of our infrastructure."
"Require retail businesses of a certain size to have MuHi Stall Restrooms."
"Public toilets are essential, esp. for older and disabled people."
"would benefit pedestrians, shoppers and merchants"
"I'm a visitor... I'm from out of town...and I need a restroom."
"As an ashamedly frequent alley pee-er post-bars, a safe, sanctioned place to go late at night is incredibly welcome!"
"This is such a fantastic idea! To increase accessibility for all* [*insert raised-hands emoji]
"I left San Francisco to get away from street feces. It's bad, don't let it happen here!"
"How about low tech compost toilet, which can then fertilize gardens?"
"This is such an important idea—and not just for folks who are homeless (terribly important for them) but also for old people like me who, more and more, find themselves in intense need. Please make this happen.—UW Professor (very full)
"A great idea that will help everyone. From a regular U-District shopper."
"Other big cities have them, Seattle Public Market has them."

“should have a drinking fountain too!”

“would help to minimize conflicts between merchants and people who need a restroom but do not need to buy anything”

“I hate finding dirty needles and other gross stuff on sidewalks! I live and work in the U District. I strongly support!”

“shouldn’t have to spend \$\$ in a business to use a bathroom”

Concerns

“my only worry would be immediate vandalism”

“not like the Pioneer Square fiasco”

“funding to supervise and maintain it”

“My concern is how to make the restrooms feel like a public/shared space.”

“consider folks who don’t feel safe in ‘men’s’ or ‘women’s’ rooms”

“Public loos are yucky—stinky. They seldom work. Drug use.”

“need to be safe”

“Maintenance issues. Sharps container/needle exchange”

“People can do inappropriate things—costs taxpayer money.”

Location

“Require any retailer who accepts public money (i.e., food stamps or School District Book/Ball) to have a publicly accessible rest room.”

Date 11/23/15

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT **FARMERS MARKET**
TABLE, 12/5/15

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 113

Summary:

Support

Yes, good idea, great idea, awesome (55)
"If I became mayor, the first thing I would do is build a restroom."
Needed, helpful, useful (29)
Homeless rights
"All NYC subway stations have a bathroom...and imagine how it would smell without them!!!"
A natural human function
"for the welfare of all citizens"
"No more random purchases to use a restroom!"
"lots of homeless," "especially the homeless" (3)
to serve tourists
"I like the Portland style"
"Better to pee in a honey bucket than the alley behind my house."
"the right to pee," a human right (3)
"Two or more." (3)
"When you gotta go you gotta go."
"It sucks that they are all now closed."
"Having a public restroom would give me more time to shop."
"Let's doo this!!"
"Please take care of everyone!"

Concerns

Safety (3)
Sharps
Put lights around it
Gender neutral
"Stand-alone public bathrooms are a DISASTER Downtown--& a HUGE money waster! NO!!!"
"Keep it stocked and clean."
"How to sanitize?"
"Closed. Open top and bottom."
"Large enough for a double stroller"
"enhanced safety (inappropriate activity) needs to be addressed"
"consider the cost"

Location

Near transport

At 45th

High traffic area

University Heights

50th & University Way

Not near light rail, so others can use it.”

David McCracken

Date 12/12/15

REPORT ON WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED AT **UNIVERSITY PARK**
NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING
TABLE, **11/18/15**

(Comments made on folded sheets, "U-Loo Comments and Ideas," and placed in our handy chamber-pot.)

Number of comments: 8

Summary:

Support

- "needed...most stores are no longer opening their restrooms to the public"
- (2) "only during evening and night time hours..daylight hours restroom at Sound Transit station"

Concerns

- It "needs to be a facility that appeals to most, and not just the homeless"
- "air flow, bugs/spiders, well lit"
- "paint it (inside) a bright ugly color to make it less comfortable"
- to save money, people could bring their own toilet paper and soap ("as in Japan"); "the most easiest to maintain and clean is the Japanese-style (in the floor)"
- "how monitored, locked. They will be abused, misused, like the last time..Not thought out."

Location

- "safe from getting hit by vehicles"
- "by the new transit center"
- "train station.. one for men and one for women" (3 for train station)
- "consider parking lots...e.g., behind U Bookstore, UW lots"

David McCracken

Date 12/9/15

11 December 2015: All comments from the Friday Feast at UTEMP

FEEDBACK:

- Public restroom would promote crime; prostitution, drug use, etc
- It would need to be monitored and attended by someone in order to prevent any issues
- There should be at least 10 of them
- There should be one every 6 blocks
- It would need to have a sharps container
- Include more resources within the bathroom; not just for relieving oneself but also for general hygiene, washing
- Do not use self-cleaning bathrooms
- Do not make it 24-hour, unless there's an attendant, someone there to keep an eye out
- Only way to maintain is to have camera systems or police officers monitoring
- Make sure it's made out of resilient material like aluminum; easily cleaned and strong
- It would have to be south of 45th

The rest of the feedback was mainly where the bathroom should be, which is all recorded on the map.

Comments from Seattle Youth Ministries

11/16/2015

12-15 people contacted

Written Comments:

- Leave Seattle Youth Ministries open 24/7.
- Protected areas preferred, put in more populated areas.
- Public restrooms are needed for less pee and poop in the alley.

Summary of Conversations

- Mostly positive, a couple negative.
- Concern with drug use and dealing.
- Concern with visibility and having one near school/children.
- ~Two people said they wouldn't use a public restroom.
- Some suggestions for putting one near bus stops.
- Chipotle, Jack-in-the-Box, and the public library are the most popular potential sites.

Focus Group ROOTS

10 December 2015

Andrea and Evelyn

This focus group was four adult males. Their direct feedback included the following:

- Yes - deep need for a public restroom, especially in the mornings and from 5pm-5am; basically when Urban Rest Stop closes.
- Have to pay at Starbucks and/or we get kicked out because of the way we look.
- Mornings are important.
- 24-hour access to hygiene facilities is really the most important.
 - Western Regional Advocacy Project (WRAP) is doing work around this and other work related to decriminalizing homelessness. www.wraphome.org/
 - But start where you can, even if it is just with a restroom.
 - Can't close URS and open a public restroom – that's a massive decrease in services that won't help us.
 - Parks and Rec – consistently closing down restrooms; both restricting hours and closing down seasonally.
- We feel that Clean and Safe Initiatives that are happening as a way to get homelessness out of the U-District.
- Need separate M/F Restrooms, always stocked with toilet paper, hot running water, air dryers.
- Restrooms can't serve as beacon for police.
 - Restrooms should be inside a building so there's no discrimination from police.
- Parks guys telling me to leave.
- We are a part of this community – whether you like it or not. We're just a different part of the community.
- There will be stigma around homelessness no matter what, but try to limit it as best as possible. We don't want to be identified as the people using the "homeless toilet".

TAKEAWAYS

- Police profiling is a reality to this group. Hard to prevent, hard to do anything. Needs to be in a place where people can't be profiled. Don't want to be targeted because they use the "homeless bathroom".
- Judging, or the perception of judging, is an issue – "oh you're using the homeless bathroom".
- Reinforced the community need. They get kicked out of a lot of places where they are profiled, like Starbucks, etc. because it so much depends on what you look like.
- Parks are closing, and are the logical places where people need to go.
- 24/7 is important – but how do you keep it safe?
- This group was all men – it would be good to get perspective from women.

ULoo Focus Group – Service Providers

12.16. 15

Andrea Petzel and four attendees

13:50

Do you think there's a need for a new public restroom in the U-District?

- Absolutely. People waiting outside to use restroom at all of our facilities.
 - SYM can come in and use restroom even during off-hours.
 - Starbucks directs people to use the public library.
 - Sundays take a toll on the library.
 - Other options are coffee shops/UW bookstore/Port-a-Potty at the University Playground.

Who would use it?

- Young people and older homeless population.
- I hope it won't be an appointed homeless restroom.
 - Signage/ way-finding signs would help a new restroom seem like it's available for all.
 - Place it where it's high enough traffic where it could be used by a lot of people and won't be target

Where should it go?

- Near the new Light Rail station.
 - Light rail – high foot traffic, but homeless youth may not want to go there because there could be complaints from people. Youth might be reluctant to use it in a place where people are commuting and they could be targeted for being there. A few blocks off might be better.
- Near the Food Bank and new housing elements (LIHI)
 - Letting business know that this is for the community and make it friendly
 - Will new food bank have a public restroom?
 - Will the Urban Rest Stop move to food bank?
- U-Heights
 - But there are several schools at U-Heights and there are safety issues.
 - Captures the Farmers Market crowd and the restroom is less obvious about being a service for the homeless.
 - Parks are natural places for restrooms to be and restrooms don't stand out; you expect them to be there.
- UW Bookstore – just off the main drag, is the parking lot well lit? That might be a reasonably good place.
- On the Ave there's not a lot of real estate to locate one, so maybe just off the Ave?
- There is a tension between public enough to be safe and private enough to be ok to use without being targeted.
- U-District has such high density; there are not a lot of places that are a natural fit.
- Put it in an accessible area, and **not** in an area where youth congregate and/or there's history of the area becoming problematic, like the Jack in the Box.
 - Don't put it in an area where there's already drama (see map with Xs).
- Petco/Apple parking lot: a place to catch a bus; a bit further away.

- Probably isn't needed too close to existing service centers:
 - SYM and Univ Pres and U Luth – all have bathrooms people can come in and use.
 - Un Cong – open, but routinely shut down for clean up reasons.

Who should be responsible?

- Agencies in the U District are small – too much going on to maintain a restroom. Maybe the Food Bank?
- U-District Partnership should control

Last thoughts

- The reality is that everyday people and tourists probably aren't going to use a Loo.
- Don't see a new bathroom spot being a place to hangout for youth.
- Drug use and needles will be an issue.
- Can there be an employment opportunity associated with it?? U-District program?
- For outside sinks paper waste would be an issue.
- Seems like small business owners are going to be the most resistant.